

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Outside Body Appointments – Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service and Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel</b>
<b>Report to be considered by:</b>	Council on 19 May 2015
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	C2968

<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	<p>To consider West Berkshire Council nominations to the following outside bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service Fire Authority;</li> <li>• Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel.</li> </ul>
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	<p>To agree the Council's representatives on the following outside bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service;</li> <li>• Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel;</li> </ul>
<b>Reason for decision to be taken:</b>	To ensure that the Council is represented on the outside organisations.
<b>Other options considered:</b>	Not to appoint representatives.
<b>Key background documentation:</b>	None
<b>Published Works:</b>	None

The proposals will help achieve the following Council Strategy principle:

☒ **CSP8 - Doing what's important well**

The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the above Council Strategy principle by:

Ensuring that the Council is appropriately represented on the outside bodies

Portfolio Member Details	
<b>Name &amp; Telephone No.:</b>	Leader of the Council
Contact Officer Details	
<b>Name:</b>	Moira Fraser
<b>Job Title:</b>	Democratic and Electoral Services Manager
<b>Tel. No.:</b>	01635 519045
<b>E-mail Address:</b>	mfrasser@westberks.gov.uk

## Implications

<b>Policy:</b>	Appointments will be made in accordance with Part 13 Appendix J (Protocol for Council Representation on Outside Bodies) of the Council's Constitution
<b>Financial:</b>	West Berkshire Council Members are not paid to attend Outside Body meetings however any costs associated with meeting attendance will be met from within existing Members Allowances budget where the Outside Body does not pay these costs.
<b>Personnel:</b>	None except for the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel where Buckinghamshire County Council acts as Host Authority, providing Scrutiny Officer and other secretariat support as needed to enable the Panel to undertake its functions. Any dedicated staff employed to support the Panel will be employed by the Host Authority, and as such their terms and conditions will be that of the Host Authority.
<b>Legal/Procurement:</b>	The introduction of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 ('the Act') introduced revised structural arrangements for national policing, strategic police decision making, neighbourhood policing and police accountability.
<b>Property:</b>	None
<b>Risk Management:</b>	The Council indemnifies Members in certain circumstances – details are set out in Appendix J to Part 13 of the Constitution (Protocol for Council representatives on Outside Bodies).

Is this item relevant to equality?	Please tick relevant boxes	Yes	No
Does the policy affect service users, employees or the wider community and:			
• Is it likely to affect people with particular protected characteristics differently?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• Is it a major policy, significantly affecting how functions are delivered?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• Will the policy have a significant impact on how other organisations operate in terms of equality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• Does the policy relate to functions that engagement has identified as being important to people with particular protected characteristics?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• Does the policy relate to an area with known inequalities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Outcome</b> (Where one or more 'Yes' boxes are ticked, the item is relevant to equality)			
Relevant to equality - Complete an EIA available at <a href="http://intranet/EqIA">http://intranet/EqIA</a>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Not relevant to equality			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is this item subject to call-in?</b>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If not subject to call-in please put a cross in the appropriate box:			
The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

# Executive Summary

---

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council is required to appoint representatives to a range of Outside Bodies. The bulk of these appointments will be made via an Individual Decision in June 2015. Where appropriate these appointments will be aligned to the Council's electoral cycle and the bulk of these appointments will be made for a four year period.
- 1.2 The Council is however required to make annual appointments to the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority and the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel. As this has been an election year the appointments will be made by Full Council to expedite the decision making process. In the following three years these appointments will revert to being Individual Decisions made by the Leader of the Authority as was agreed at the 17 May 2007 Executive meeting.
- 1.3 Appointments will be made in accordance with Appendix J to Part 13 of the Constitution (Protocol for Council Representatives on Outside Bodies).

## 2. Royal Berkshire Fire Authority

- 2.1 Members are responsible for setting the Fire and Rescue Service operating budget and determining how the service is run. Meetings of the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority take place in the evenings, on a quarterly basis, at the authority's Headquarters in Calcot, Reading. Members should note that a Member appointed to this Fire Authority is expected to attend all Fire Authority meetings and to serve on at least one committee or working party.
- 2.2 Appointments to the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority are made on a proportionality basis based on the electoral roll. There will be 25 members appointed in 2015/16. The Fire Authority comprises local councillors appointed by the six unitary authorities in the county: Bracknell Forest Borough Council (3 seats); Reading Borough Council (4 seats); Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (4 seats); Slough Borough Council (4 seats); West Berkshire Council (5 seats) and Wokingham District Council (5 seats). West Berkshire Council has gained a seat in 2015/16 and Reading has lost a seat in 2015/16.
- 2.3 The RBFRS has agreed to set up a task group to consider the appropriate level of representation and the methodology for allocating seats. It was therefore possible that the membership and methodology for 2016/17 might be amended.
- 2.4 At the Executive meeting in May 2007 it was agreed that West Berkshire Council appointments will be made based on the Council's proportionality rules.
- 2.5 The representatives for the 2014/15 period were Councillors Jeff Brooks, Paul Bryant, Adrian Edwards and Emma Webster.
- 2.6 The following Members have expressed an interest in being nominated to this Outside Body: Councillors Emma Webster, Paul Bryant, Adrian Edwards, Anthony Chadley, Carol Jackson-Doerge and Alan Macro.

### **3. Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel**

- 3.1 The Panel comprises 18 elected members (one from each Authority) and 2 co-optees. Appointments of elected Members to the Panel are made in accordance with each Authorities own procedures with a view to ensuring that the 'balanced appointment objective' is met so far as is reasonable practicable.
- 3.2 The balanced appointment objective requires that the Panel should (when taken together):
- (1) Represent all parts of the police area;
  - (2) Represent the political make-up of the Authorities;
  - (3) Have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary for the Panel to discharge its functions effectively.
- 3.3 A Member shall be appointed annually to the Panel to hold office matching the Municipal Year, subject to the following provisos that he/she:
- (1) Shall cease to be a Member of the Panel if he/she ceases to be a member of:
    - (a) The Authority;
    - (b) The political group in the Authority when the appointment to hold office was made.
- 3.4 The Council's current representative on the organisation is Councillor Quentin Webb.
- 3.5 The following Member has expressed an interest in being appointed to the panel: Councillor Quentin Webb.

### **4. Equalities Impact Assessment Outcomes**

- 4.1 There are no equalities issues associated with this report.

### **5. Conclusion**

- 5.1 That the Council appoints representatives to the organisations as set out in the paragraphs above.

### **Appendices**

---

There are no Appendices to this report.

### **Consultees**

---

**Local Stakeholders:** Fayth Rowe (RBFRS) and Clare Gray (BCC)

**Officers Consulted:** Robin Steel, Gillian Durrant, Corporate Board

**Trade Union:** Not consulted